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News Release

USU Faculty Member becomes Board Certified Health Physicist

BETHESDA, Md. -- U.S. Navy Cmdr. David A. Schauer, Medical Service Corps, Sc.D., Chief of Radiological Sciences and assistant professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences recently achieved the title of Certified Health Physicist.

Schauer, who is one of three faculty members from USU who recently achieved the title of Certified Health Physicist, received his board certification from the American Board of Health Physics.

Nationwide, less than 20 percent of the eligible candidates who take the exam achieve board certification. The first part of the exam is strictly multiple choice and covers the fundamentals of radiation protection or health physics. The second part is more of a problem solving, essay-type format where the individual has to show depth of understanding in radiation protection.

“With a national certification rate of about 20 percent, we feel pretty good that all of our eligible USU faculty are now board certified,” said Schauer. “Within the Department of Defense, approximately 15 percent of practicing health physicists is board certified.”

A native of Williamstown, N.J., Schauer received his doctorate in radiation physics from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., in 1994.

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USU was established by Congress under the Department of Defense in 1972 and has the nation's only fully accredited federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. With its motto "Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way," the university has a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for military medical education and research.